

(No Report.)

JANUARY 26, 1839.

Read twice, and committed to the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union.

Mr. LINCOLN, from the Committee on the Public Buildings, reported the following bill:

A BILL

To provide for the erection of a fire-proof building for the use of the Department of War.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives*
2 *of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That*
3 the President of the United States be, and he hereby is, au-
4 thorized to cause to be erected near the present office of the
5 War Department, or on any other public lot which he may
6 select, a fire-proof building, of such dimensions as may be
7 required for the immediate and pressing wants of that De-
8 partment, upon such plan as will admit of its future conve-
9 nient and fit extension, and of such materials as shall be best
10 approved, having regard to durability and economy: *Provi-*
11 *ded, however, That the foundation walls of said building, be-*
12 low the surface of the earth and two feet above, shall be of
13 the hardest and most solid rock.

1 SEC. 2. *And be it further enacted, That the President*
2 be, and he hereby is, authorized to appoint a skilful architect

3 to prepare and submit to him the necessary plans for the
4 proper construction of the building authorized in the first
5 section of this act, which being approved by him shall be con-
6 formed to in the erection of the structure; and the said ar-
7 chitect may be continued in the superintendence of the con-
8 struction of the building, or another employed in that service,
9 as the President may judge best. And for the erection of
10 said building there be, and hereby is, appropriated the sum
11 of one hundred thousand dollars, out of any money in the
12 Treasury not otherwise appropriated by law.